Amendments To The Specification:

In the English translation document, please delete the term --Description-- at page 1 line 1, before the title.

In the English translation document, please add the paragraph at page 1 line 4, after the title, as follows:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is the US National Stage of International Application No. PCT/DE2003/003615, filed October 30, 2003 and claims the benefit thereof. The International Application claims the benefits of German application No. 10254536.7 filed November 21, 2002, both applications are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.--

In the English translation document, please add the section heading at page 1 line 4, after the newly added CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS section, as follows:

--FIELD OF THE INVENTION--

In the English translation document, please add the section heading at page 1 line 8, as follows:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

In the English translation document, please add the section heading at page 1 line 29, as follows:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

In the English translation document, please amend the paragraph at page 2 lines 11-12, as follows:

This problem is further solved by a <u>corresponding</u> method ~~as claimed in Claim 14~~.

In the English translation document, please add the section heading at page 9 line 26, as follows:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--

In the English translation document, please add the section heading at page 10 line 4, as follows:

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--

In the English translation document, please add the paragraphs at page 17 line 21, as follows:

The invention comprises further advantageous embodiments regarding a method:

The information flow 28 between the components $21_{1..j}$ runs counter to the material flow 27.

The directed relationships 23 between data interfaces 26 of adjacent components $21_{1..j}$ are established on the basis of the distance of the components $21_{1..j}$ from each other and existing information about the data interfaces 26.

Type information and/or entity information and/or location information about the components $21_{1..j}$ from the graphical layout is used.

Further properties 30 are added to components $21_{1..j}$ in a layout-oriented manner.

Components $21_{1..j}$ are combined into groups 31 in a layout-oriented manner.

Higher-order semantics 32 are assigned to the groups 31 in a layout-oriented manner.

Elements for delimiting permitted value ranges and/or attributes are assigned to components $21_{1..j}$ and/or functional groups 31 and/or data interfaces 26.

A network configuration 33 for the communication of the components $21_{1..m}$ of a process-engineering and/or production-engineering plant is generated in a layout-oriented manner.